

PATENT

Atty. Dkt. No. MRKS/0133

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0012] with the following amended paragraph:

[0012] At least in preferred embodiments, a first connection part having an outer transverse dimension equal to or less ~~that~~ than that of the pipe string is connected, possible via intermediate parts, to the lower end section of the pipe string. By means of an axially split connector ring of known type, the first connection part is releasably connected to a second connection part. The second connection part is connected, possible via intermediate parts, to a tool.